

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 302532

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. ON THE FIRE ESCAPES, WE SHARE YOUR BEWILDERMENT ABOUT THE CONFUSION, WHICH WE CAN ONLY ATTRIBUTE TO FBO'S INVOLVEMENT. WE ARE TRYING TO GET A CABLE TO YOU SAYING OKAY ON THE EXISTING REPAIR JOB AS AN INTERIM MEASURE. THE SURVEY TEAM JOAN MENTIONED ON THE PHONE CAN GET OUT THERE LATER TO SEE WHAT ELSE IS NEEDED. DEKOOS HAS ALREADY DISCUSSED THIS WITH TOON. PART OF THE PROBLEM IS THE LEVEL OF INTEREST, WHICH MEANS THAT EVERYBODY HERE OVER-REACTS.

2. MARITIME NEGOTIATIONS: WE HAVE A FEW MORE INFORMAL THOUGHTS ON THE MARITIME SITUATION. WITH RESPECT TO LOCATION OF NEGOTIATIONS, THE SOVIETS WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY LOVE TO HAVE OUR PEOPLE COME TO MOSCOW JUST BEFORE CHRISTMAS, BUT IT WOULD BE TACTICALLY FOOLISH FOR OUR SIDE TO AGREE TO THAT. WE ARE NOW IN SUCH A PECULIAR SITUATION THAT WE DON'T BELIEVE WE HAVE TO FOLLOW A "HOME AND HOME" PATTERN WITH RESPECT TO SITES FOR NEGOTIATION. GIVEN THE NATURE OF THE PROBLEMS, THERE IS SOME LOGIC IN PROPOSING THAT THE SOVIETS RETURN HERE, BUT AN INTERMEDIATE SITE
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FAMILIAR TO THE SOVIETS, SUCH AS LONDON OR PARIS, MIGHT BE

PREFERABLE. LONDON WOULD BE BEST, BECAUSE WE CAN GET OUR

TEAM THERE QUICKEST, AND IT IS A SHORT HOP FOR THE SOVIETS.

ONE MINOR QUESTION YOU MAY BE ABLE TO CLEAR UP FOR US. SOVIET MARITIME DELEGATION'S AEROFLOT FLIGHT OUT OF WASHINGTON WAS DELAYED ABOUT 10 HOURS REPORTEDLY BECAUSE IT WAS DELAYED IN LEAVING MOSCOW BECAUSE OF HIGH WINDS. (THE WEATHER IS PART OF OUR REASONING FOR NOT WISHING TO GO TO MOSCOW AT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR.) WE HAVE INFORMAL INDICATIONS HERE THAT THEY PURPOSELY STALLED THEIR DEPARTURE FROM HERE IN THE HOPE OF GETTING US INTO A FRENETIC LAST-MINUTE NEGOTIATION AT THE AIRPORT, BUT WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING FOR CERTAIN THAT THIS WAS SO. WE DO KNOW THAT THEY WERE VERY NERVOUS AT THE AIRPORT AND AVERIN WAS REPORTEDLY UNABLE TO EAT HIS DINNER. COULD THE SOVIET MARITIME PEOPLE (WITH CC MAN BILETSKIY IN THEIR NUMBER) HAVE DELAYED THE PLANE? WHAT WAS THE WEATHER IN MOSCOW AT THAT TIME? THE PLANE WAS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE WASHINGTON ON DECEMBER 7 AT 8:30 PM BUT DEPARTURE TOOK PLACE ONLY AT ABOUT 6:30 AM ON DECEMBER 8.

3. REGULAR SHIPMENTS OF US CURRENCY: YOU WILL SOON RECEIVE A CABLE FROM FINANCIAL SERVICES IN ANSWER TO YOUR REQUEST FOR REGULAR SHIPMENTS OF US CURRENCY SAYING THEY ARE UNABLE TO MAKE ANY COMMITMENT FOR REGULAR SHIPMENTS OUT OF WASHINGTON. THEY RECOMMEND CONTINUING TO SEND CURRENCY ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS. THIS DECISION WAS MADE PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF RISKS INVOLVED IN TRANSMITTING ON REGULAR BASIS VIA COURIER POUCH AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS. FS IS AWARE OF YOUR PROBLEM, HOWEVER, AND IS LOOKING INTO THE LEGAL ASPECT AND OTHER POSSIBILITIES TO MEET YOUR NEEDS, SUCH AS SENDING FROM PARIS VIA FRANKFURT. THEY WILL DISCUSS THIS OPTION WITH DIRECTOR OF RFDPC WHO IS NOW IN TOWN. OTHER POSSIBILITIES INCLUDE SENDING VIA NON-PRO COURIER OUT OF HELSINKI OR HAVING B AND F OFFICER MAKE TRIPS TO VIENNA. IN MEANTIME, THEY CAN ONLY PROVIDE "EMERGENCY" ASSISTANCE.

4. VARIOUS IMMIGRATION CASES: (A) REF YOUR O-I MOSCOW
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18774 AND MOSCOW 18681 ABOUT THE SAFARYAN FAMILY, VO AND INS CO ARE IN CONSULTATION ABOUT TRYING TO GET THE HUSBAND ACCEPTED FOR CONDITIONAL ENTRY. ALSO, SCA PLANS TO IDE SOME NP-1 NUMBERS FOR ACCOMPANYING DEPENDENTS TO IVE IMMIGRANT VISAS AT NAPLES IN JANUARY, AND WE WILL TRY TO GET THEM TO ACCEPT MRS. SAFARYAN AND CHILDREN. (B) REF MOSCOW 19458 ABOUT OGANES KOSHKARYAN, WE WROTE TO HIS SISTERS BUT RECEIVED NO REPLY. WE AGREE A FRONT

CHANNEL CABLE WOULD BE TIMELY. ONE THING WHICH MIGHT NOT BE REFLECTED IN HIS FILE THAT IN HIS SECOND MOSCOW INTERVIEW HE GAVE A DIFFERENT ACCOUNT OF WHEN HE JOINED THE CPSU. HIS SISTERS THEN WROTE TO THE DEPARTMENT IN 1975 ABOUT THE CASE, CONFIRMING THAT HE HAD JOINED ON THE DATE HE GAVE IN HIS FIRST INTERVIEW. THE LETTER WAS APPARENTLY ROUTED TO SCA/VO, WHERE THE PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE DIVISION SENT A FORM LETTER REPLY AND FORWARDED THE ORIGINAL TO INS ROME, KEEPING NO COPY. THUS, INS ROME HAS THE ORIGINAL AND WE ARE NOT SURE WHAT THE LETTER SAYS. ALL THIS IS TO ADVISE YOU NOT TO TRY TO MAKE ANYTHING OUT OF WHEN HE JOINED THE PARTY (WHICH WE THINK IS NOT CRUCIAL ANYHOW) BECAUSE INS ROME MAY BE ABLE TO CITE TO LETTER FROM THE SISTERS TO INDICATE OTHERWISE. (C) VO IS CHECKING WITH INS CO ABOUT GINZBURG PER MOSCOW 19458. (D) DID THE MAYSOROSH FAMILY LEAVE THE USSR?

5. GRAIN CONSULTATIONS: GIVEN TIMING AND SWIFT MOVEMENT OF EVENTS HERE, WE WERE UNABLE TO BRIEF FERCH ON STATUS OF MARITIME NEGOTIATIONS WHICH HAVE A BEARING ON GRAIN AGREEMENT. THUS, IF SOVIETS RAISE IT DURING CONSULTATIONS KEN SKONG SHOULD BE PREPARED TO RESPOND, AS HE WILL BY THE ONLY ONE ON THE US DELEGATION WHO KNOWS THE MARITIME PROBLEM. DO NOT, HOWEVER, VOLUNTEER ANY INFORMATION TO THE SOVIETS. GIVEN FACT THAT THE MARITIME MATTER IS PRESENTLY IN HIGH-LEVEL HANDS, WE DEEM IT BEST THAT YOU NOT DISCUSS IT WITH THE AGRICULTURE PEOPLE AT THIS TIME.

6. FOR MATLOCK FROM W. B. MILLER: TRIP HOME COMPLETED WITHOUT INCIDENT. FIRST CLASS SEATING FRANKFURT-WASHINGTON COURTESY PAA WAS BIG HELP. MY PHYSICIAN TELLS ME ECG HERE DEC. 13 SHOWED NO REPEAT NO CHANGES FROM ECG ON SAME MACHINE APRIL 76. "INCIDENT" CONFIDENTIAL

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WAS OBVIOUSLY CONNECTED WITH HEART, PERHAPS ANTICIPATORY OF PROBLEM IF NOT HANDLED WELL, BUT APPARENTLY DID NOT REPEAT NOT RESULT IN HEART DAMAGE. PLEASE PASS FOREGOING TO DR. JOHNSON, TOM TRACY ON HIS RETURN, SANDRA GUST, ALSO WITH MY THANKS FOR STRONG EMBASSY SUPPORT IN MOSCOW AND FOR PROVISION OF ESCORT TO FRANKFURT. THIS WAS OF TREMENDOUS ASSISTANCE BOTH IN GETTING OUT OF MOSCOW AND ON WAY HOME. REGARDS TO ALL. KISSINGER

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